

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 10-16 contain allowable subject matter.

Title

By way of this reply, the title has been amended to "METHOD FOR MANAGING COMMANDS IN SEVERAL APPLICATION FILES AND MICROCHIP CARD FOR IMPLEMENTING SAID METHOD."

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner accept the drawings submitted on October 25, 2001. Applicant submits that these drawings are formal.

Priority Claim

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge the claim of foreign priority. The present application is a continuation of PCT application PCT/FR 00/01137 filed on April 28, 2000, which claims priority to French Patent application FR 99/05444 filed on April 29, 1999.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant respectfully requests that the initialed PTO Form-1449 from the IDS filed on October 25, 2001, be returned. If this IDS has not been considered, appropriate consideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 9 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 9.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended by way of this reply. Further, claims 2-4, 8, 10-12, and 16 have been amended to be consistent with amendments to claims 1 and 9. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, as support for these amendments may be found, for example, on page 7, lines 14-16, page 9, lines 5-32, and page 12, lines 10-18 of the present application.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 9 has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a method and a microchip card for managing commands in several application files of the microchip card (*see, e.g.*, Specification, page 1, lines 4-6). Independent claim 9, as amended, requires: (i) a memory table which references access conditions met by the user to commands of the plurality of application files, (ii) stored instructions for automatically referencing in the memory table an access condition to a command when such command has been accessed by the user; and (iii) stored instructions for automatically checking when a user orders execution of a command of one of the plurality of application files whether the access condition associated with the command is referenced in the memory table and for initiating execution of the command in case the access condition is

referenced in the memory table. Accordingly, amended independent claim 9 is no longer a single means claim and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Withdrawal of the §112 rejection as to claim 9 is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 101

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 1, from which claims 2-8 depend directly or indirectly, has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claims as amended are now directed towards statutory subject matter by setting forth physical structures comprising hardware or a combination of hardware and software within the technological arts (*i.e.*, a microchip card) to produce a “useful, concrete and tangible” result. Specifically, execution of a command is initiated when an access condition is referenced in a memory table of the microchip card. In other words, when a user orders execution of (or initiates) a particular command, the command may be executed when an access condition associated with the command is referenced in a memory table of the microchip (*see, e.g.*, amended claims 1 and 9, and Specification, page 9, lines 8-22). Such actions are not merely abstract or performed in someone’s mind.

Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is directed towards statutory subject matter. Dependent claims 2-8 are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

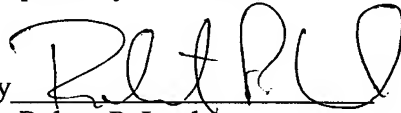
Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places the present application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 09669/012001).

Dated: June 30, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. P. Lord', written over a horizontal line.

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